

## Safe Kids Savannah

### Minutes

November 10, 2009

#### Attending:

Tonya Allen, YMCA

Cathy Cribbs, Chatham County Homemakers

Jane Garrison, CC Health Dept

Karen Martin, United Community Bank

Mike Stubbs, SCCPSS

Awraial Binns, Amerigroup

Linda Denhardt, Coastal ENA

Alison Gramza, CC Health Dept.

Misty Selph, CC Aquatic Center

Donna Williams, Amerigroup

Sharon Carson, CC DFCS

Yoland Fontaine, HAS

Lisa Heusel, A.W.A.R.E. Training Services

Sally Silberman, Coastal Health District

Glenda Woo, CC Health Dept.

**Welcome:** Chairman Donna Williams welcomed members. Each person provided additional detail regarding their work demonstrating the diversity of each coalition member, as well as their talents and professionalism.

#### Did you Know:

**The Healing Field:** The R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Children Kindly) Group has set up the Healing Field at the National Guard Armory. It will be up until November 15. Flags are sold and displayed to represent each report of child abuse and neglect in Chatham County. There are 1,665 flags. Flags may be purchased for \$35 and picked up on November 15. See the web site [www.healingfield.org/savannah](http://www.healingfield.org/savannah) for more information or call Penny Maggioni at 912 356-8404. Funds from the event will be used to support First Steps, a support and resource program for new parents at Candler Hospital.

#### Old Business

- **Holiday donations:** Members agreed to provide a gift marked for a girl or boy that can be brought to the December 8 meeting or dropped off at the Safe Kids Savannah Office at 420 Mall Blvd. Gifts will be wrapped as part of the meeting activities. Gifts will be distributed through Coalition member programs. A drawing will be held to determine which program is chosen.
- **Christmas on the River Lighted Parade:** Volunteer sheet was passed to determine if members would like to participate in this annual parade that begins at 530pm on Dec 5. The route begins at Indian Street and snakes through River and Bay Streets. Families should bring their children and be prepared to walk the route. More details at 353-3148.

#### New Business

- **December 8 monthly meeting:** Members agreed to hold a covered dish luncheon at the December meeting. Bring a side dish or dessert. Meat and drinks will be provided.
- **Family Day in July:** Discussion was held regarding a Coalition Family Day in July as a time for members to socialize and get to know each other better. The following members volunteered to serve on a planning committee: Sharon Carson, Linda Denhardt, Lisa Heusel, Misty Selph, and Donna Williams.

## REPORTS

#### Coordinator

Alison Gramza

- **Safe Kids funds:** Alison stated that total funds to date are \$4,782.66. Expenses this month included items for Halloween promotion and purchase of bears as a fund raiser.
- **Safe Kids Savannah** received \$200 at the Coastal Empire Fair for first prize in the educational displays. Thanks to Alison for creating the display.
- **Marine Marathon** held in DC raised over \$70,000 for Safe Kids USA. Thanks to Mark Roberson for his participation.

#### Membership

Karen Martin

- Karen will send out thank notes to new members, as well as 'we missed you' notes to regular members.
- **2009/2010 calendar** dates were provided in a handout.

#### Resource Development

Lisa Heusel

- **Bear Sales** kick-off was held at the meeting. Members will be selling bears and other stuffed animals for \$5.00. Melanie Howard arranged for a table at the Saint Joseph/Candler Craft Fairs Dec 4 and 11. Volunteers signed up to help at that event. Other tentative locations for sales include First Saturday on the River Dec 5 and Savannah Tire Hockey Classic Jan 15-16.
- Members discussed the possibility of holding a garage sale in Feb or March.
- The annual Chinese Auction will be held in May at the awards luncheon. Members were asked to begin donating items that can be brought to the monthly meetings or dropped off at the Safe Kids Savannah office at 420 Mall Blvd.

#### Public Relations

Sally Silberman

- Good coverage on Halloween Safety. Alison appeared on Mid-Morning show on Oct 30 at WTOG.
- Press release will be sent announcing Kids Don't Float donation locations for lifejackets.

#### Water Safety

Misty Selph for Jennifer White

- Plans are being made for the May water safety event 'Make A Splash'.
- 1,000 water safety brochures have been printed and were paid for by the Chatham County Aquatic Center, JEA and American Red Cross. This will be distributed at appropriate locations.
- Next meeting December 1 at 9:15 at the Chatham County Aquatic Center.

**Pedestrian Safety** Alison Gramza reporting for Jane Love

- Thirty (30) locations for events and Halloween safety information.
- 5,494 safety handouts were distributed along with 2,016 reflective items.

**Sports** Mike Stubbs

- Mike is currently working on winter sports and will be planning information for spring sports outreach in March.

**Fire Safety** Alison Gramza for Mark Keller

- Member discussed reprinting the fire safety/toy safety tags to hang on Christmas trees. Alison will check with Mark about the Savannah Fire Departments participation, as well as the cost of reprinting the tags.

**Bike Safety** Eve Seibert

No Report

**Occupant** Linda Denhardt and Kristie Emerson

- Child Passenger Safety Technician certification will be held November 17-20 in Statesboro. Contact Alison at 912 353-3148 or [amgramza@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:amgramza@dhr.state.ga.us) for more information. You can register for the class at [www.ridesafegeorgia.org](http://www.ridesafegeorgia.org).
- A car seat check up is planned in February at Candler Hospital. Details will be provided at the next meeting.
- Safety literature (300) was distributed to attending members.

**Announcements**

- Go to [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) as a good resource for information about recalls on consumer goods. You can sign up for an automatic email for recall notifications.
- Chatham County Library will be holding a Children's Book Festival on November 14 from 10am until 4pm at Forsyth park.
- Alison provided a fun holiday safety handout for members to copy and distribute.
- The Southern leadership Conference is sponsoring "Feed the Hungry" at the Salvation Army on Monday, November 23. The event will also include a meal at 5pm, entertainment and health screenings. Call 349-2908 if you would like to volunteer as a server, help pack boxes, or obtain more information. You may also donate non-perishable items at local grocery stores. There will be a follow-up event in December as well.

**NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

*Holiday Covered-Dish - bring a side dish or dessert - meat and drinks will be provided!*

Community Room South Side Fire Department  
10703 White Bluff Road  
Savannah, GA 31406

**PREVENTING ACCIDENTAL CHILDHOOD INJURIES**

[www.safekidssavannah.org](http://www.safekidssavannah.org)

[www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)

[www.qachd.org](http://www.qachd.org)